

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 OMB-01 CU-04 RSR-01 /127 W
----- 013402

P R 091600 Z MAR 73

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3363

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

/ AMEMBASSY LONDON 918

USMISSION USUN NY

AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINS SF

SUBJ: CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE REFUSES COOPERATION WITH
PARLIAMENTARY INVESTIGATING COMMISSION

1. CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE (CI), ONE OF FOUR ORGANIZATIONS BEING INVESTIGATED BY SOUTH AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION OF INQUIRY, HAS TODAY DELIVERED TO COMMISSION STATEMENT WHICH MAKES KNOWN ITS DISGUST AT COMMISSION' S ACTIVITY TO DATE AND SAYING CI WILL REFUSE TO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH COMMISSION' S INVESTIGATION OF INSTITUTE.

2. NOTE WAS DELIVERED BY CI' S CAPE REGIONAL DIRECTOR REV. THEO KOTZE WHO TOLD CONGEN TEXT OF STATEMENT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN MARCH 11 SUNDAY TIMES. DECISION WAS SPARKED BY INSTITUTE' S CONCERN ABOUT WAY IN WHICH COMMISSION HANDLED RECENT NUSAS INVESTIGATION, BY WHAT IT CONSIDERS PUSILLANIMOUS ROLE UNITED PARTY PLAYED AND BY GOVERNMENT BANNING OF SASO AND BLACK PEOPLES CONVENTION OFFICIALS.

3. CI REALIZES THAT COMMISSION WILL DOUBTLESS SUBPOENA CI
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OFFICERS WHO WILL THEN REFUSE APPEAR. UNLESS GOVERNMENT
MEANWHILE DECIDES TO BAN THESE PERSONS, THEY WOULD BE SUBJECT
PRISON SENTENCES. KOTZE HIMSELF HAS HEARD FROM JOURNALIST
THAT INDEPENDENT DECISION HAS BEEN MADE TO BAN HIM ON MARCH 13.

4. COMMENT: SINCE COMMISSION HAS NOT YET GOTTEN AROUND TO
INVESTIGATING CI AND PROBABLY WOULD NOT HAVE DONE SO FOR MANY
MONTHS. THE DECISION WAS DIFFICULT ONE TO MAKE BUT KOTZE
INDICATED CI OFFICERS WERE TIRED OF DOING NOTHING IN FACE
GOVERNMENT HARASSMENT OF INSTITUTE AND ABOVE- NOTED MOVES
AGAINST STUDENTS. TACTICAL WISDOM OF ACTION MAY BE OPEN TO
QUESTION BUT CI HAS BITTEN THE BULLET AND WILL HAVE TO TAKE
THE CONSEQUENCES.
O' NEILL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LONDON
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